

"THE INDIAN WARWHOO"

Edited by the English Department of
Ahoskie High School

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SOUTHERN POETS AND WRITERS

(Read in Columbian Literary Society
Friday Afternoon)

The people of the South are ever hearing the names of their own native poets and writers. When poets and writers are mentioned, no special notice is taken, but when they are found to be natives of the South, what is there to do but to listen to the works which any Southern poet has left the people of America, not only America but Europe as well.

The United States has furnished the world with many poets and writers but the stories which are written by Southerners seem to appeal to everyone more than those stories written by Northern writers.

In discussing the different poets of the south, let us find out who really are the leading southern poets. There are many beautiful poems written by distinguished southern men, but there are hardly more than four that can be described as professional men of letters. Edgar Allan Poe, William Gilmore Simms, Henry Timrod and Paul Hamilton Hayne. The rest practiced some profession, and busy with other things, devoted only a part of their time to develop their poetical genius, and are remembered for an occasional poem or story and not for the body of their works.

Poe is the one man of genius whom the south produced before 1860. He was born in Boston, Mass., but soon his mother died and he was adopted by Mr. John Allen, a southerner. He was liked so well that Mr. Allen decided to name him after himself so he was thereafter known as Edgar Allan Poe. During his young life Poe fell into the bad habits of gambling and using intoxicants. In 1836 he married Miss Virginia Clemm, only 14 years old, who proved to be a good helpmate. Poe lived happily for a long time during which time he wrote many poems, but his chief work was writing short stories for he looked on poetry as "not a purpose, but a passion, and did not force himself to compose verse. In 1849 Poe's wife died of consumption and soon after in the year 1849, he was taken in delirium to a hospital where he died Sunday, October 7. The inscription on the memorial tablet in the New York Museum of Art may well serve as an epitaph. "He was great in his genius, unhappy in his life, wretched in his death, but in his fame he is immortal."

Everyone knows that Poe was great but when someone, who really understands art, expresses his opinion, all of us listen with undivided interest. Brander Matthews in "Introduction to American Literature" has made these remarks. "And yet in the eyes of foreigners Poe is the most gifted of all the authors of America; he is the one to whom the critics of Europe would most readily accord the full title of genius. At the end of this 19th century, Poe is the sole man of letters born in the U. S. whose writings are read eagerly in Great Britain, France and Germany and in Spain where Franklin is now but a name, and where the fame of James Fenimore Cooper, once as widely spread as Poe's is now fading away. That his schemes of poetry was highly artificial, that the themes of his poems were vague and unsubstantial, and that his stanzas do not stimulate, these may be admitted without disadvantage. What the reader does find in Poe's poetry is the suggestion of departed but unperishable beauty."

Let us now discuss a few facts concerning William Simms Gilmore. Simms was born in 1806 at Charleston, S. C. At early manhood he began to write and continued this work. He lived happily, so unlike many of our southern writers, and he died in his home at Charleston. A bust by Ward stands in White Point Garden in Charleston in memory of him.

Simms is hardly thought of as a poet. No one except some strong literary antiquarian would dare to attempt to read half of what he has written. It is the novelist that we care for. It is hardly conceivable to us now that from 1827 to 1860 he brought out as many as fifteen volumes of verse, about one volume for every two years! This gives us sufficient reasons to believe that Simms is a striking literary figure in the South.

Both Timrod and Hayne are na-

tives of South Carolina, both born at Charleston. Timrod was born in 1829 while one year later Hayne was born. Timrod is like many of our poets. He came from a poor family and remained so until his death in 1867. W. P. Trent in writing the "Life of W. G. Simms" says, "Timrod's was probably the most finely endowed mind to be found in Carolina, or indeed in the whole south, at this period. His German blood and his inherited qualities had given him a greater artistic endowment than any other southern writers, save Poe."

Hayne is equally as famous as Timrod, and the gentle, high chivalry in the best southern character and the southerner's love of state and section are reflected with great charm and grace in his poetry. It has often been said that no more simple and refined gentleman was ever nurtured in the old south. If he lacked Simms' vigor and power of varied accomplishment, or Timrod's artistic self control, his genius was, nevertheless, more receptive, more keenly alive to the beauties of nature and art.

Though some idea has been given of the greatness of these four poets, let us never forget those who have contributed some valuable pieces of literature.

Think of the children in the southland who smile at the mention of "Uncle Remus." Not only the younger but the older ones as well. Whom can we remember as the poet who wrote this? Irvin Russell is a native of Mississippi, and was born at Port Gibson June 3, 1853. He had a frail constitution which was caused by an attack of yellow fever when he was but three months old. He was weak all during his life and died at the age of 26 years, but his works are good examples of the old negro dialect.

Sidney Lanier, one among the first of American poets was a Georgian and February 3rd will be the birthday of this famous Southerner. It has often been said "had he lived and died in England, how he would have been embalmed in living odes, his sepulchre, how perpetually draped with insignia of national appreciation! But he is ours! He was a Southerner to the centre of his great loving heart!"

Abram Joseph Ryan, Francis Ticknor, Theodore O'Hara and Richard Wilde were all talented poets, and but for lack of time each one of these could be discussed.

After all these men who are great poets and writers, shall we forget the modern poets and writers? No, for when one thinks a moment, almost all those southerners living today are from our own native state, North Carolina.

William Sidney Porter, commonly known as O. Henry, is known all over the world for his short stories. They are interesting and the kind every one likes to read, also Thomas Nelson Page in a native of our own state, and all of us perhaps know already of his early career.

Our magazines are filled with beautiful poems which are true to life. At the bottom of each poem is written, Edgar A. Guest. He is gradually but surely winning fame.

Last of our native poets, but not least, is John Charles McNeill, who has put to use his poetical talent by giving the world some poems which in time will be famous.

On January 11, 1864, Thomas Dixon was born at Shelby, N. C. He is a graduate of Wake Forest College and is a learned scholar. Dixon is the author of the interesting book, "The Clansman," which gives us a vivid description of the reconstruction days after the Civil War.

In such poetry as is written by the poets already mentioned, one sees the promise of the future of Southern poetry. When the present age of criticism has passed, when the South has become adjusted to new life, and when again, the great southern poets shall be heard in England and America, we may confidently expect the coming of a great creative era.

When there is throughout the South a keener appreciation of literary art, when the perspective of time is brought to bear on southern romance, great poets will arise to take their places among the great singers of the American future. By all considerations, of climate, temperament, and richness of poetic

material, the South is the home of poetry.

The greatest southern poets and writers have been partially discussed and also the possibilities which the South has for taking a still higher stand in the literary world, but there is no poem which makes our native South feel dearer to us than the following stanza written by Alexander Meek:

Land of the South! Imperial land
How proud the mountains rise!
How sweet thy scenes on every hand!
How fair thy covering skies!
But not for this; or not for these
I love thy fields to roam,
Thou hast a dearer spell to me—
Thou art my native home!
—MARY HOGGARD,
'24.

HESPERIAN LITERARY SOCIETY

The Hesperian Literary Society met February the second. The meeting was called to order by the president. The roll was then called by the Secretary, and each member responded with a quotation from some Southern poet. The following program was then rendered:

Devotional exercises Spurgeon
Isenhower
Essay, "Southern Poets"..... Columbus
McKeel
Southern recitation..... Beatrice Overton
Clamation Cling Odom
Essay, "Southern Writers"..... Alton
Hayes
Recitation Alene Earley
Debate: "Resolved that the South has had greater influence in building up the nation than the north"
Affirmative: Negative:
Marian Bazemore Ruby Lane
Ray Hoggard Leroy Overton
Critic's report..... Sybil Myers

The affirmative side of the debate won the decision of the judges. The declamation and the essay on "Southern Heroes" were especially good. The Critic's report showed that there had been marked improvement on the part of those acting since they last performed.

Miss Gaddy then told a very interesting story of one of our greatest Southern short story writers, O. Henry. This, we all enjoyed very much.

The Secretary then read the program for next week.
There being no further business, the society adjourned.

THE COLUMBIAN LITERARY SOCIETY

The Columbian Literary Society held its regular meeting in the High School auditorium Friday, February 2nd.

After the society was called to order, the roll was called and minutes read by the secretary.

New business was called for, and a motion was passed that the president appoint a standing critic, instead of one each meeting. Mary Sumner was appointed to act as critic during this meeting, and Ernestine King to be the standing critic for the society. Lois Parker, Emma Wooten and Alpha Newsome were appointed to act as judges for the debate.

A program was then rendered as follows:

Song—"Dixie" By Society
Devotional exercises Chaplain
Debate, query—"Resolved that the South has had more influence in the building of the nation than the North." Affirmative: Ada Belle Sessions, Ben Mitchell Williams.
Negative: Estelle Vinson, Robert Holloman

Southern Ballads..... By Society
Essay, "Southern Poets and Writers,"
Mary Hoggard

Story from "Uncle Remus" Leon
Alexander
Clamation, "The Greatest Battle Ever Won"..... Horace Garrett
Recitation, "The Blue and The Gray"
Mildred King

This program is a southern one, and as all true southerners like to hear the facts concerning southern literature, poets and writers, this program was enjoyed as much as any the society has given.

Each number was exceedingly interesting, especially the declamation and recitation. Sometime in the future, this society will furnish some able speakers for the public.

The judges' decision was given in favor of the affirmative.

The critic then gave her report, after which the society adjourned.

SCHOOL NOTES

Miss Thelma Jewell, the third grade teacher, held a doll day in her school room last Wednesday, January 31st. All the little girls brought their dolls, prizes were given for the prettiest. Rosa Lee Harris won the first prize and Eloise Camp the second.

Miss Louise Buffalo was the guest of Mrs. V. D. Strickland last Wed-

nesday evening, January 31st.

We are sorry to report that one of teachers, Miss Mary Gating, has been kept away for the past week on account of sickness in the family. We sincerely hope she will soon be with us again soon. Mrs. Hallie Baker is supplying for her.

Candy was sold last Tuesday during the short intermission in the hall of the new building; the proceeds, which were two dollars and seventy five cents, went to the treasurer of the Columbian Literary Society.

We are glad to report that Mr. John Henry Willoughby has returned to school after being out nearly two weeks on account of the "flu". We sincerely hope he will have no difficulty in making up his work.

Mr. Randolph Dilday returned to school Monday morning, February 5, after being out a few days on account of the "flu."

Because of the bad weather, and atmospheric conditions, there was no noon hour Monday. The teachers taught through and dismissed the students at one-thirty.

Mr. K. T. Raynor and Miss Louise Buffalo were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Boyette at dinner Sunday.

ATHLETIC NOTES

Baseball is beginning to "sprout out". The old apple looks mighty good, but it is rather early as the basket ball season is in full bloom. Jack Frost will nip baseball in the bud unless he decides to let the weather continue to be warm. Cold weather and a baseball do not go together.

Hurrah for Ahoskie! The "Old Gold and Black" defeated their old foe Winton Friday night by the score of 12 to 5.

Ahoskie and Winton and Ahoskie and Woodland are certainly evenly matched. Ahoskie has proved herself capable and worthy of giving as much as she receives in both instances. Ahoskie is no sloucher when it comes to playing basket ball!

The girls practiced on the indoor court last week and this week, preparing for their games.

Ahoskie has a basket ball team that can fight just as hard as any team. They can also play just as good as any other team considering the time they have known the game. Ahoskie also has just as good a referee as can be found in these parts. Both the teams and referee, Mr. Raynor, have been highly complimented by outsiders.

Many people are complaining about not knowing the game of basketball and never seeing a game. Now right here and right now! You cannot learn the game unless you see it. There is being played in our town, in Phaup's warehouse, a brand of first-class, A-1 basket ball by your own boys. Come out and see them play. You will enjoy it, young or old.

AHOSKIE WINS AGAIN

Ahoskie defeated Winton on the local floor Friday night to the tune of 12 to 5. Thus far Ahoskie has won seven and lost three games.

The first half ended with Ahoskie leading 7 to 5. Ahoskie kept the ball in her possession nearly all the time, but showed inability to cage the ball. Winton was helpless. Whenever they would rescue the ball and make a desperate effort to get a shot, Greene, stationary guard, would get the ball and pass to Garrett or Leary who were always ready to receive his return pass.

In the second half Winton secured no points, against Ahoskie's five. The final score ending with Ahoskie leading 12 to 5.

Rhodes, Winton's snappy little forward, did not secure a single point, due to the fact that Greene, who guarded him, always got the ball rather than he. Neither did Garrett, Ahoskie's running forward, secure a point. But he made up for this by clever guarding and floor work. Sessions' 4 points and Captain Holloman's 8 points, did the scoring for Ahoskie, while Brett and Downes scored for Winton. Last, but not least, Leary, A. H. S., and Faison, W. H. S., showed up well as guards.

The line-up and summary was as follows:

AHOSKIE (12)	WINTON (5)
Holloman R.F.	Downes
Garrett L.F.	Rhodes
Sessions C.	Harrell
Leary E.G.	Faison
Greene L.G.	Brett

Field goals: Ahoskie; Holloman 3, Sessions 2, Winton; Downes 1, Brett 1. Foul goals: Ahoskie; Holloman 2, Winton; Downes 1. Referee, Raynor. Time 20 minute halves.

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YOUR SEED POTATO SUPPLY

Planters will soon be calling at retail stores for supplies of seed IRISH POTATOES. Get ready for the demand, and be prepared to take care of your customer's wants.

We have just received two car loads of MAINE GROWN IRISH POTATOES

Our BURT OATS have already arrived, and we can take care of your wants. Best to be had and at attractive prices

Let this concern handle your demands and you will be assured of genuine service

Let us have your orders

Barnes-Sawyer Grocery Co., Inc.
AHOSKIE, N. C.

Murfreesboro Farmers

This announces the leasing of Worrell's Warehouse in Murfreesboro by SWIFT & CO., for the storing and handling of their high grade fertilizers.

Will Carry Full Stock.

There will be carried at this warehouse a full and complete stock of Swift & Co.'s Fertilizers during the 1923 season. Mr. Tull Forbes will be in charge of this warehouse.

Every order to this warehouse is assured of prompt and careful attention.

Also Warehouse at Ahoskie.

We sell to anybody in Hertford County, and solicit your order.

S. E. VAUGHN,
General Agent for Hertford County,
Ahoskie, N. C.

HOTEL SOUTHLAND

To the traveler, the Hotel Southland offers bright and cheerful rooms in an absolutely fireproof building and REAL service by properly trained employes. Table d'Hote Luncheons at Fifty Cents, Dinners at One Dollar and excellent table service are features of the Dining Room. The hotel is centrally located on Norfolk's main thoroughfare. Rates (European Plan) are quoted from \$2.00 per day. Reservations in advance, are advisable.

H. L. OREBAUGH, Manager.

NORFOLK-VIRGINIA